This conventional process does not employ the use of update subscription information as received from a user as required in the claim. Accordingly, this cited portion cannot anticipated the claimed subject matter and it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance for this reason alone.

In addition, the office action cites to column 7, lines 42-61 as allegedly teaching monitoring of the certificate of at least one subscriber subject identified by update subscription information when a change occurs to the certificate, providing an indication of the change to the user. As claimed, monitoring is carried out in response to update subscription information and when a change occurs then the system provides an indication of the change to the user. The Pearlman reference teaches a different approach from that claimed by Applicants. For example, Pearlman requires that a request be sent by a server node if it does not retain a sufficiently current CRL or contains no CRL at all. (See column 7, lines 19-22). The revocation service then merely generates a reply in response to the server node request that includes the revocation status of the particular certificate. As such, the revocation service in Pearlman only provides the current status in response to a specific request by a server node.

In contrast, Applicants' method monitors the certificate of a particular subscriber's subject identified in update subscription information and when a change occurs then provides an indication of the change to the user. The user need not repeatedly send requests in for a revocation update as required in Pearlman. In fact, the cited portion of Pearlman does not teach that a reply is sent after monitoring certificates and waiting until a change occurs to the certificate, but to the contrary, a reply is sent in response to each request. Accordingly, the claims are in condition for allowance.
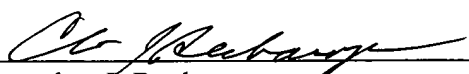
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As to claims 12 and 28, these claims are also allowable at least for the reasons given above.

Claims 11 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants note that the "Response to Arguments" section does not address Applicants' previous remarks with respect to these claims and as such, if the rejection is maintained, Applicants respectfully request statements as to why Applicants' position is not persuasive. For example, Applicants challenged the official notice as the claim language appears to have been mischaracterized. Applicants noted that the claim requires that the message include specific information namely, identifying the change in the public key certificate. Pearlman teaches a different system that does not identify any change to the public key certificate but instead simply sends a certificate revocation list and there would be no need to encode such a message. If the rejection is maintained, Applicants respectfully request a showing as to which teachings in the prior art teach encoding a CRL, for example, or the subject matter of the claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and that an early Notice of Allowance be issued in this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _12/20/05_

By: _____
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